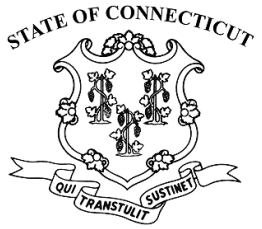

House Bill No. 5428

Special Act No. 24-24

AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO REPORT ON PROGRAM UTILIZATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Children and Families shall study program utilization within the Department of Children and Families. Not later than February 1, 2025, the commissioner shall report on the results of such study, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children and appropriations. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to, information for the previous two-year period on (1) participation in each department program, (2) program quality controls in place, (3) program expenditures in relation to utilization, (4) department funding and expenditures by account, (5) the percentage of contracted utilization and whether utilization is increasing or decreasing and, for any decline in utilization or utilization that falls below eighty-five per cent of the contracted expectation, the reasons for the decline or low utilization, including an evaluation of whether the trend reflects decreased need for the service or workforce limitations, (6) the number of referrals to each contract and the reasons that referrals go unserved, which may include reasons such as staffing vacancies, the fact that the program met capacity or that the client did

not meet the admission criteria, (7) for each contracted service, whether procurement rates include costs for staff training, data collection or quality assurance expectations, (8) for each contract, whether the service is billable under Medicaid, (9) for each contracted service, whether a child or family was required to be in the department's care or custody as a criteria for referral or admission, (10) for each contract, the geographic scope for delivery, and (11) for each service, information concerning achievement of contracted service expectations regarding attainment of treatment goals based on initial assessment.

Approved June 5, 2024